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that the Carthaginian hostages be degraded to the condition of slaves to work for private individuals." What Livy says is: "Ut et obsides in privato *servarentur*." (Page 151, note 18.) On page 355 the sense is entirely missed by rendering "*dolus malus*" "pain."

The proof-reading is very carelessly done. The attempt to read the Greek or Latin notes is an admirable exercise in textual emendation. An analytical table of contents ill supplies the lack of an index in a volume containing such a variety of matter.

EDWARD G. BOURNE.

Fabian Essays in Socialism, edited by G. BERNARD SHAW. Published by the Fabian Society, London, 1889. — 233 pp.

This book contains a course of eight lectures, delivered in 1888, by members of the Fabian Society. They set forth in part at least the theory and programme which the members of that society hope gradually to induce the Liberal party to adopt, and with its help to embody in English law. The authors deal almost wholly with English conditions and problems. The writers to whom they refer as authorities or antagonists are English, or those whose works exist in English translations. The result is that the errors of the Manchester school are again exploited for the benefit of social democracy, and much well-beaten straw is threshed again in the hope of finding grain.

The first part of the book is devoted to a criticism of existing social institutions in England. They are studied from the economic, the historical, and the moral standpoints, with the purpose of showing that they have failed to secure national health, and that tendencies are now at work which will overthrow them and prepare the way for the socialistic state. In the second part the organization of property and industry under the socialistic state is described. Finally the method of transition to the new order and the prospects of the movement are outlined. We are told by the editor in the preface that the work, both in its form and substance, is "a sample of the propaganda carried on by voluntary lecturers in the workingmen's clubs and political associations of London." Though the scientific value of the lectures may be lessened thereby, the interest attaching to them as results of a persistent attempt to influence English opinion is increased.

Within the limits of this review it is impossible to glance even at the contents of all the essays. The writer will state what seems to be some of the leading features of the book.

That the question of land and rent should occupy a prominent place is natural. Mr. Shaw opens the discussion with a paper in which he generalizes Ricardo's law of rent in such a way as to account *a priori*

for the existence of an unproductive landlord class, over-population and starvation wages. He sums up his analysis as follows :

Incomes derived from private property consist partly of economic rent ; partly of pensions, also called rent, obtained by the subletting of tenant rights ; and partly of a form of rent called interest, obtained by special adaptations of land to production by the application of capital ; all these being finally paid out of the difference between the produce of the workers' labor and the price of that labor sold in the open market for wages, salary, fees, or profits.

The conclusion is that economic rent should be appropriated for the good of the community, and the other forms of rent no longer exacted. The method of treatment is essentially the same as that by which Bastiat reached the opposite conclusions. The one is no more convincing than the other.

Mr. Clarke traces the growth of capitalistic production till it has culminated in the trust and annihilated free competition. Mr. Webb shows how the theory of *laissez faire* had to be abandoned, and the state was forced to interfere to check the evils which developed during the first half of this century in the English factories and mines. That interference has gone on till now a large number of industries are controlled to a greater or less extent by the state or municipality. This, it is argued, is an evidence and a result of the growth of the democratic spirit. With that has arisen the true organic conception of society. With the triumph of democracy in England, which is regarded as certain, will come the overthrow of individualism and the establishment of a socialistic régime. Industries organized under the form of the trust are ready for absorption by the state.

Several of the writers declare themselves opposed to the construction of ideal commonwealths. They say that this was an amiable weakness of the older socialists, but that experience and the study of evolutionary philosophy have shown it to be unscientific and useless. It will be sufficient, they say, to proclaim our destructive criticism of the present social order, and to aid the progress of those measures of reform the object of which is to improve the machinery of government and make it more serviceable to the masses. But the socialist must have an ideal, whether for tactical purposes he conceals it or not. Hence we find that Mr. Wallas and Mrs. Besant have sketched the future social state, and its outlines will be familiar to all students of social-democratic theories.

Some statements in the last article, by Mr. Herbert Bland, together with a few passages occurring elsewhere in the book, would indicate that the members of the society are not fully agreed as to the methods of their propaganda and the probable result of the movement. The policy of force all emphatically reject. Mr. Bland has very rational doubts as to the possibility of leavening the Radical and Liberal parties with socialistic

ideas. Much that is called socialism in this book is only enlightened, progressive liberalism, and every advance in that direction renders the success of social democracy less probable. Even the writers see no prospect of the success of a purely socialistic party in England at present. The progress of the movement will be watched with interest.

H. L. OSGOOD.

Individualism. A System of Politics. By WORDSWORTH DONISTHORPE, Barrister at Law. London Macmillan & Co., 1889. — 393 PP.

The essays on sociological problems which Mr. Donisthorpe has collected under the above title are characterized by aggressiveness in both style and method. The proportion of destructive criticism to constructive work is large throughout the essays. This criticism indeed is often as keen and forcible as it is always vigorous, and it aids indirectly in elucidating the author's "system" of theoretical and practical individualism. His plan of campaign involves a sharp attack upon the absolute individualism maintained by certain "extreme individualists," as well as a constant warfare against both the delusive gospel of socialism and the measures of legislative interference supported by English "neo-radicals." These measures are denounced by the author as essentially and dangerously socialistic. When the author arrives at his practical programme, his advocacy of "labor-capitalization" as an individualistic solution of labor-troubles is conducted in a particularly militant spirit as regards economists and their inconveniently narrow definitions of capital. There is apparent a disposition to magnify the remedy advocated at the expense of any plans and efforts on other lines for the laborer's welfare.

In the way of positive theory Mr. Donisthorpe aims to set forth the principles of an individualism which would be consistent with the mechanically conceived evolutionary movement of society and its institutions. In respect of this, Mr. Spencer himself is weighed and found wanting. He is detected (*cf.* page 271) in setting up for the defence of the individual against the majority a claim of natural rights; as still manifesting a faith "in abstract justice, as something anterior to society or even to man." On the contrary, liberty and justice are gradually evolved and hence of a relative character at any given time in the process. What can be made out, is the present tendency of the social movement. Mr. Donisthorpe finds it a little embarrassing to show, in face of what he elsewhere describes as "half a century of socialism in practical politics," that the present tendency of social evolution is "toward the minimizing of interference"; but he faces the difficulty boldly with the statement that the phenomena referred to are temporary